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# Controllability for Sobolev type fractional integro-differential systems in a Banach space

Hamdy M Ahmed\*

\*Correspondence:  
Hamdy\_17eg@yahoo.com  
Higher Institute of Engineering,  
El-Shorouk Academy, P.O. Box 3  
El-Shorouk City, Cairo, Egypt

## Abstract

In this paper, by using compact semigroups and the Schauder fixed-point theorem, we study the sufficient conditions for controllability of Sobolev type fractional integro-differential systems in a Banach space. An example is provided to illustrate the obtained results.

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## 1 Introduction

A Sobolev-type equation appears in a variety of physical problems such as flow of fluids through fissured rocks, thermodynamics and propagation of long waves of small amplitude (see [1–3]). Recently, there has been an increasing interest in studying the problem of controllability of Sobolev type integro-differential systems. Balachandran and Dauer [4] studied the controllability of Sobolev type integro-differential systems in Banach spaces. Balachandran and Sakthivel [5] studied the controllability of Sobolev type semilinear integro-differential systems in Banach spaces. Balachandran, Anandhi and Dauer [6] studied the boundary controllability of Sobolev type abstract nonlinear integro-differential systems.

In this paper, we study the controllability of Sobolev type fractional integro-differential systems in Banach spaces in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D^\alpha (Ex(t)) + Ax(t) &= Bu(t) + f(t, x(t)) + \int_0^t g\left(t, s, x(s), \int_0^s H(s, \tau, x(\tau)) d\tau\right) ds, \\ t \in J = [0, a], a > 0, x(0) &= x_0, \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $E$  and  $A$  are linear operators with domain contained in a Banach space  $X$  and ranges contained in a Banach space  $Y$ . The control function  $u(\cdot)$  is in  $L^2(J, U)$ , a Banach space of admissible control functions, with  $U$  as a Banach space.  $B$  is a bounded linear operator from  $U$  into  $Y$ . The nonlinear operators  $f \in C(J \times X, Y)$ ,  $H \in C(J \times J \times X, X)$  and  $g \in C(J \times J \times X \times X, Y)$  are all uniformly bounded continuous operators. The fractional derivative  ${}^C D^\alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$  is understood in the Caputo sense.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we introduce preliminary facts which are used throughout this paper.

**Definition 2.1** (see [7–9]) The fractional integral of order  $\alpha > 0$  with the lower limit zero for a function  $f$  can be defined as

$$I^\alpha f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{f(s)}{(t-s)^{1-\alpha}} ds, \quad t > 0$$

provided the right-hand side is pointwise defined on  $[0, \infty)$ , where  $\Gamma$  is the gamma function.

**Definition 2.2** (see [7–9]) The Caputo derivative of order  $\alpha$  with the lower limit zero for a function  $f$  can be written as

$${}^c D^\alpha f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{f^{(n)}(s)}{(t-s)^{\alpha+1-n}} ds = I^{n-\alpha} f^{(n)}(t), \quad t > 0, 0 \leq n-1 < \alpha < n.$$

If  $f$  is an abstract function with values in  $X$ , then the integrals appearing in the above definitions are taken in Bochner's sense.

The operators  $A : D(A) \subset X \rightarrow Y$  and  $E : D(E) \subset X \rightarrow Y$  satisfy the following hypotheses:

- ( $H_1$ )  $A$  and  $E$  are closed linear operators,
- ( $H_2$ )  $D(E) \subset D(A)$  and  $E$  is bijective,
- ( $H_3$ )  $E^{-1} : Y \rightarrow D(E)$  is continuous.

The hypotheses  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$  and the closed graph theorem imply the boundedness of the linear operator  $AE^{-1} : Y \rightarrow Y$ .

( $H_4$ ) For each  $t \in [0, a]$  and for some  $\lambda \in \rho(-AE^{-1})$ , the resolvent set of  $-AE^{-1}$ , the resolvent  $R(\lambda, -AE^{-1})$  is a compact operator.

**Lemma 2.1** [10] *Let  $S(t)$  be a uniformly continuous semigroup. If the resolvent set  $R(\lambda; A)$  of  $A$  is compact for every  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ , then  $S(t)$  is a compact semigroup.*

*From the above fact,  $-AE^{-1}$  generates a compact semigroup  $\{T(t), t \geq 0\}$  in  $Y$ , which means that there exists  $M > 1$  such that*

$$\max_{t \in J} \|T(t)\| \leq M. \quad (2.1)$$

**Definition 2.3** The system (1.1) is said to be controllable on the interval  $J$  if for every  $x_0, x_1 \in X$ , there exists a control  $u \in L^2(J, U)$  such that the solution  $x(\cdot)$  of (1.1) satisfies  $x(a) = x_1$ .

( $H_5$ ) The linear operator  $W$  from  $U$  into  $X$  defined by

$$Wu = \int_0^a E^{-1}(a-s)^{\alpha-1} T_\alpha(a-s) Bu(s) ds$$

has an inverse bounded operator  $W^{-1}$  which takes values in  $L^2(J, U)/\ker W$ , where the kernel space of  $W$  is defined by  $\ker W = \{x \in L^2(J, U) : Wx = 0\}$ ,  $B$  is a bounded linear operator and  $T_\alpha(t)$  is defined later.

( $H_6$ ) The function  $f$  satisfies the following two conditions:

- (i) For each  $t \in J$ , the function  $f(t, \cdot) : X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous, and for each  $x \in X$ , the function  $f(\cdot, x) : J \rightarrow Y$  is strongly measurable.
- (ii) For each positive number  $k \in N$ , there is a positive function  $g_k(\cdot) : [0, a] \rightarrow R^+$  such that

$$\sup_{|x| \leq k} |f(t, x)| \leq g_k(t),$$

the function  $s \rightarrow (t-s)^{1-\alpha} g_k(s) \in L^1([0, t], R^+)$ , and there exists a  $\beta > 0$  such that

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\int_0^t (t-s)^{1-\alpha} g_k(s) ds}{k} = \beta < \infty, \quad t \in [0, a].$$

(H<sub>7</sub>) For each  $(t, s) \in J \times J$ , the function  $H(t, s, \cdot) : X \rightarrow X$  is continuous, and for each  $x \in X$ , the function  $H(\cdot, \cdot, x) : J \times J \rightarrow X$  is strongly measurable.

(H<sub>8</sub>) The function  $g$  satisfies the following two conditions:

- (i) For each  $(t, s, x) \in J \times J \times X$ , the function  $g(t, s, \cdot, \cdot) : X \times X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous, and for each  $x \in X$ ,  $H \in X$ , the function  $g(\cdot, x, y) : J \times J \rightarrow Y$  is strongly measurable.
- (ii) For each positive number  $k \in N$ , there is a positive function  $h_k(\cdot) : [0, a] \rightarrow R^+$  such that

$$\sup_{|x| \leq k} \left| \int_0^t g\left(t, s, x, \int_0^s H(s, \tau, x) d\tau\right) ds \right| \leq h_k(t),$$

the function  $s \rightarrow (t-s)^{1-\alpha} h_k(s) \in L^1([0, t], R^+)$ , and there exists a  $\gamma > 0$  such that

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\int_0^t (t-s)^{1-\alpha} h_k(s) ds}{k} = \gamma < \infty, \quad t \in [0, a].$$

According to [11, 12], a solution of equation (1.1) can be represented by

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) = & E^{-1} S_\alpha(t) E x_0 + \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} T_\alpha(t-s) E^{-1} f(s, x(s)) ds \\ & + \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} E^{-1} T_\alpha(t-s) B u(s) ds \\ & + \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} E^{-1} T_\alpha(t-s) \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} ds, \quad t \in J, \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} R(\tau) = & \int_0^\tau H(\tau, \eta, x(\eta)) d\eta, \quad S_\alpha(t)x = \int_0^\infty \xi_\alpha(\theta) T(t^\alpha \theta) x d\theta, \\ T_\alpha(t)x = & \alpha \int_0^\infty \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) T(t^\alpha \theta) x d\theta \end{aligned}$$

with  $\xi_\alpha$  being a probability density function defined on  $(0, \infty)$ , that is,  $\xi_\alpha(\theta) \geq 0$ ,  $\theta \in (0, \infty)$  and  $\int_0^\infty \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta = 1$ .

**Remark**  $\int_0^\infty \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)}.$

**Definition 2.4** By a mild solution of the problem (1.1), we mean that the function  $x \in C(J, X)$  satisfies the integral equation (2.2).

**Lemma 2.2** (see [11]) *The operators  $S_\alpha(t)$  and  $T_\alpha(t)$  have the following properties:*

- (I) *For any fixed  $x \in X$ ,  $\|S_\alpha(t)x\| \leq M\|x\|$ ,  $\|T_\alpha(t)x\| \leq \frac{\alpha M}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}\|x\|$ ;*
- (II)  *$\{S_\alpha(t), t \geq 0\}$  and  $\{T_\alpha(t), t \geq 0\}$  are strongly continuous;*
- (III) *For every  $t > 0$ ,  $S_\alpha(t)$  and  $T_\alpha(t)$  are also compact operators if  $T(t), t > 0$  is compact.*

### 3 Controllability result

In this section, we present and prove our main result.

**Theorem 3.1** *If the assumptions  $(H_1)$ - $(H_8)$  are satisfied, then the system (1.1) is controllable on  $J$  provided that  $\frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}(\beta + \gamma)[1 + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}\|B\|\|W^{-1}\|] < 1$ .*

*Proof* Using the assumption  $(H_5)$ , for an arbitrary function  $x(\cdot)$ , define the control

$$u(t) = W^{-1} \left[ x_1 - E^{-1}S_\alpha(t)Ex_0 - \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-s)f(s, x(s)) ds - \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-s) \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} ds \right](t).$$

It shall now be shown that when using this control, the operator  $Q$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} (Qx)(t) &= E^{-1}S_\alpha(t)Ex_0 + \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(t-s)f(s, x(s)) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(t-s)Bu(s) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(t-s) \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} ds \end{aligned}$$

from  $C(J, X)$  into itself for each  $x \in C = C(J, X)$  has a fixed point. This fixed point is then a solution of equation (2.2).

$$\begin{aligned} (Qx)(a) &= E^{-1}S_\alpha(a)Ex_0 + \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-s)f(s, x(s)) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-s)BW^{-1} \\ &\quad \times \left[ x_1 - E^{-1}S_\alpha(a)Ex_0 - \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-\tau)f(\tau, x(\tau)) d\tau \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-\tau) \left\{ \int_0^\tau g(\tau, \eta, x(\eta), R(\eta)) d\eta \right\} d\tau \right](s) ds \\ &\quad + \alpha \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1}E^{-1}T_\alpha(a-s) \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} ds = x_1. \end{aligned}$$

It can be easily verified that  $Q$  maps  $C$  into itself continuously.

For each positive number  $k > 0$ , let  $B_k = \{x \in C : x(0) = x_0, \|x(t)\| \leq k, t \in J\}$ . Obviously,  $B_k$  is clearly a bounded, closed, convex subset in  $C$ . We claim that there exists a positive

number  $k$  such that  $QB_k \subset B_k$ . If this is not true, then for each positive number  $k$ , there exists a function  $x_k \in B_k$  with  $Qx_k \notin B_k$ , that is,  $\|Qx_k\| \geq k$ , then  $1 \leq \frac{1}{k}\|Qx_k\|$ , and so

$$1 \leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} k^{-1} \|Qx_k\|.$$

However,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} k^{-1} \|Qx_k\| \\ & \leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} k^{-1} \left\{ M \|E^{-1}\| \|E\| \|x_0\| + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1} g_k(s) ds \right. \\ & \quad + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \|B\| \|W^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1} \left[ \|x_1\| + M \|E^{-1}\| \|E\| \|x_0\| \right. \\ & \quad + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g_k(\tau) d\tau \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} h_k(\tau) d\tau \right] ds + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_0^a (a-s)^{\alpha-1} h_k(s) ds \right\} \\ & \leq \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \beta + \frac{\alpha M^2 (\|E^{-1}\|)^2}{(\Gamma(\alpha + 1))^2} \|B\| \|W^{-1}\| (\beta + \gamma) + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \gamma \\ & = \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} (\beta + \gamma) \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \|B\| \|W^{-1}\| \right] < 1, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Hence,  $QB_k \subset B_k$  for some positive number  $k$ . In fact, the operator  $Q$  maps  $B_k$  into a compact subset of  $B_k$ . To prove this, we first show that the set  $V_k(t) = \{(Qx)(t) : x \in B_k\}$  is a precompact in  $X$ ; for every  $t \in J$ : This is trivial for  $t = 0$ , since  $V_k(0) = \{x_0\}$ . Let  $t, 0 < t \leq a$ ; be fixed. For  $0 < \epsilon < t$  and arbitrary  $\delta > 0$ ; take

$$\begin{aligned} (Q^{\epsilon, \delta} x)(t) &= \int_{\delta}^{\infty} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T(t^{\alpha} \theta) E x_0 d\theta \\ & \quad + \alpha \int_0^{t-\epsilon} \int_{\delta}^{\infty} \theta (t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^{\alpha} \theta) f(s, x(s)) d\theta ds \\ & \quad + \alpha \int_0^{t-\epsilon} \int_{\delta}^{\infty} \theta (t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^{\alpha} \theta) \\ & \quad \times B W^{-1} \left[ x_1 - \int_0^{\infty} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T(a^{\alpha} \theta) E x_0 d\theta \right. \\ & \quad - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^{\infty} \theta (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^{\alpha} \theta) f(\tau, x(\tau)) d\theta d\tau \\ & \quad - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^{\infty} \theta (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^{\alpha} \theta) \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \int_0^{\tau} g(\tau, \eta, x(\eta), R(\eta)) d\eta \right\} d\theta d\tau \left. \right] (s) d\theta ds \\ & \quad + \alpha \int_0^{t-\epsilon} \int_{\delta}^{\infty} \theta (t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_{\alpha}(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^{\alpha} \theta) \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} d\theta ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= T(\epsilon^\alpha \delta) \int_\delta^\infty \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T(t^\alpha \theta - \epsilon^\alpha \delta) E x_0 d\theta \\
&\quad + T(\epsilon^\alpha \delta) \alpha \int_0^{t-\epsilon} \int_\delta^\infty \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta - \epsilon^\alpha \delta) f(s, x(s)) d\theta ds \\
&\quad + T(\epsilon^\alpha \delta) \alpha \int_0^{t-\epsilon} \int_\delta^\infty \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta - \epsilon^\alpha \delta) \\
&\quad \times BW^{-1} \left[ x_1 - \int_0^\infty \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T(a^\alpha \theta) E x_0 d\theta \right. \\
&\quad - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^\infty \theta(a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^\alpha \theta) f(\tau, x(\tau)) d\theta d\tau \\
&\quad - \int_0^a \int_0^\infty \theta(a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^\alpha \theta) \\
&\quad \times \left. \left\{ \int_0^\tau g(\tau, \eta, x(\eta), R(\eta)) d\eta \right\} d\theta d\tau \right] (s) d\theta ds \\
&\quad + T(\epsilon^\alpha \delta) \alpha \int_0^{t-\epsilon} \int_\delta^\infty \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta - \epsilon^\alpha \delta) \\
&\quad \times \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} d\theta ds.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $u(s)$  is bounded and  $T(\epsilon^\alpha \delta)$ ,  $\epsilon^\alpha \delta > 0$  is a compact operator, then the set  $V_k^{\epsilon, \delta}(t) = \{(Q^{\epsilon, \delta} x)(t) : x \in B_k\}$  is a precompact set in  $X$  for every  $\epsilon$ ,  $0 < \epsilon < t$ , and for all  $\delta > 0$ . Also, for  $x \in B_k$ , using the defined control  $u(t)$  yields

$$\begin{aligned}
&\| (Qx)(t) - (Q^{\epsilon, \delta} x)(t) \| \\
&\leq \left\| \int_0^\delta \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T(t^\alpha \theta) E x_0 d\theta \right\| \\
&\quad + \alpha \left\| \int_{t-\epsilon}^t \int_\delta^\infty \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) f(s, x(s)) d\theta ds \right\| \\
&\quad + \alpha \left\| \int_{t-\epsilon}^t \int_\delta^\infty \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) \right. \\
&\quad \times BW^{-1} \left[ x_1 - \int_0^\infty \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T(a^\alpha \theta) E x_0 d\theta \right. \\
&\quad - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^\infty \theta(a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^\alpha \theta) f(\tau, x(\tau)) d\theta d\tau \\
&\quad - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^\infty \theta(a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^\alpha \theta) \\
&\quad \times \left. \left\{ \int_0^\tau g(\tau, \eta, x(\eta), R(\eta)) d\eta \right\} d\theta d\tau \right] (s) d\theta ds \Big\| \\
&\quad + \alpha \left\| \int_{t-\epsilon}^t \int_\delta^\infty \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} d\theta ds \right\| \\
&\quad + \alpha \left\| \int_0^t \int_0^\delta \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) f(s, x(s)) d\theta ds \right\| \\
&\quad + \alpha \left\| \int_0^t \int_0^\delta \theta(t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) \right.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times BW^{-1} \left[ x_1 - \int_0^\infty \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T(a^\alpha \theta) E x_0 d\theta \right. \\
& - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^\infty \theta (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^\alpha \theta) f(\tau, x(\tau)) d\theta d\tau \\
& - \alpha \int_0^a \int_0^\infty \theta (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((a-\tau)^\alpha \theta) \\
& \times \left. \left\{ \int_0^\tau g(\tau, \eta, x(\eta), R(\eta)) d\eta \right\} d\theta d\tau \right] (s) ds \Big\| \\
& + \alpha \left\| \int_0^t \int_0^\delta \theta (t-s)^{\alpha-1} \xi_\alpha(\theta) E^{-1} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) \left\{ \int_0^s g(s, \tau, x(\tau), R(\tau)) d\tau \right\} d\theta ds \right\| \\
& \leq M \|E^{-1}\| \|E\| \|x_0\| \int_0^\delta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \\
& + \alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \left( \int_{t-\epsilon}^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} g_k(s) ds \right) \left( \int_\delta^\infty \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \right) \\
& + \alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \|B\| \|W^{-1}\| \int_{t-\epsilon}^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} \left[ \|x_1\| + M \|E^{-1}\| \|x_0\| \right. \\
& + \frac{\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} M \|E^{-1}\| \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g_k(\tau) d\tau \\
& + \frac{\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} M \|E^{-1}\| \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} h_k(\tau) d\tau \left. \right] (s) ds \left( \int_\delta^\infty \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \right) \\
& + \alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \left( \int_{t-\epsilon}^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} h_k(s) ds \right) \left( \int_\delta^\infty \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \right) \\
& + \alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \left( \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} g_k(s) ds \right) \left( \int_0^\delta \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \right) \\
& + \alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \|B\| \|W^{-1}\| \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} \left[ \|x_1\| + M \|E^{-1}\| \|x_0\| \right. \\
& + \frac{\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} M \|E^{-1}\| \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g_k(\tau) d\tau \\
& + \frac{\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} M \|E^{-1}\| \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{\alpha-1} h_k(\tau) d\tau \left. \right] (s) ds \left( \int_0^\delta \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \right) \\
& + \alpha M \|E^{-1}\| \left( \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha-1} h_k(s) ds \right) \left( \int_0^\delta \theta \xi_\alpha(\theta) d\theta \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  and  $\delta \rightarrow 0^+$ , there are precompact sets arbitrary close to the set  $V_k(t)$  and so  $V_k(t)$  is precompact in  $X$ .

Next, we show that  $QB_k = \{Qx : x \in B_k\}$  is an equicontinuous family of functions.

Let  $x \in B_k$  and  $t, \tau \in J$  such that  $0 < t < \tau$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
& \| (Qx)(t) - (Qx)(\tau) \| \\
& \leq \| T(t^\alpha \theta) - T(\tau^\alpha \theta) \| \|E^{-1}\| \|E\| \|x_0\| \\
& + \frac{\alpha \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^t \| (t-s)^{1-\alpha} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) - (\tau-s)^{1-\alpha} T((\tau-s)^\alpha \theta) \| g_k(s) ds \\
& + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_t^\tau (\tau-s)^{1-\alpha} g_k(s) ds
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^t \|(t-s)^{1-\alpha} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) - (\tau-s)^{1-\alpha} T((\tau-s)^\alpha \theta)\| \|E^{-1}\| \|B\| \|W^{-1}\| \\
& \times \left[ \|x_1\| + \|E^{-1}\| \|M\| \|E\| \|x_0\| + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{1-\alpha} g_k(\tau) d\tau \right. \\
& + \left. \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{1-\alpha} h_k(\tau) d\tau \right] (s) ds \\
& + \frac{\alpha M}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_t^\tau (\tau-s)^{1-\alpha} \|E^{-1}\| \|B\| \|W^{-1}\| \left[ \|x_1\| + \|E^{-1}\| \|M\| \|E\| \|x_0\| \right. \\
& + \left. \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{1-\alpha} g_k(\tau) d\tau \right. \\
& + \left. \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^a (a-\tau)^{1-\alpha} h_k(\tau) d\tau \right] (s) ds \\
& + \frac{\alpha \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_0^t \|(t-s)^{1-\alpha} T((t-s)^\alpha \theta) - (\tau-s)^{1-\alpha} T((\tau-s)^\alpha \theta)\| h_k(s) ds \\
& + \frac{\alpha M \|E^{-1}\|}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \int_t^\tau (\tau-s)^{1-\alpha} h_k(s) ds.
\end{aligned}$$

Now,  $T(t)$  is continuous in the uniform operator topology for  $t > 0$  since  $T(t)$  is compact, and the right-hand side of the above inequality tends to zero as  $t \rightarrow \tau$ . Thus,  $QB_k$  is both equicontinuous and bounded. By the Arzela-Ascoli theorem,  $QB_k$  is precompact in  $C(J, X)$ . Hence,  $Q$  is a completely continuous operator on  $C(J, X)$ .

From the Schauder fixed-point theorem,  $Q$  has a fixed point in  $B_k$ . Any fixed point of  $Q$  is a mild solution of (1.1) on  $J$  satisfying  $(Qx)(t) = x(t) \in X$ . Thus, the system (1.1) is controllable on  $J$ .  $\square$

#### 4 Example

In this section, we present an example to our abstract results.

We consider the fractional integro-partial differential equation in the form

$$\begin{aligned}
& {}^c \partial_t^\alpha (z(t, x) - z_{xx}(t, x)) - z_{xx}(t, x) \\
& = Bu + \mu_1(t, z_{xx}(t, x)) \\
& + \int_0^t \mu_3\left(t, s, z_{xx}(s, x), \int_0^s \mu_2(s, \tau, z_{xx}(\tau, x)) d\tau\right) ds, \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t \in J, \\
& z(t, 0) = z(t, \pi) = 0, \quad t \in J, \\
& z(0, x) = z_0(x), \quad x \in [0, \pi],
\end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

where  ${}^c \partial_t^\alpha$  is the Caputo fractional partial derivative of order  $0 < \alpha < 1$ .

Take  $X = Y = L^2[0, \pi]$  and define the operators  $A : D(A) \subset X \rightarrow Y$  and  $E : D(E) \subset X \rightarrow Y$  by  $Az = -z_{xx}$  and  $Ez = z - z_{xx}$ , where each domain  $D(A)$  and  $D(E)$  is given by  $\{z \in X : z, z_x \text{ are absolutely continuous, } z_{xx} \in X, z(0) = z(\pi) = 0\}$ .

Then  $A$  and  $E$  can be written respectively as [13]

$$Az = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2(z, z_n)z_n, \quad z \in D(A),$$



$$Ez = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + n^2) (z, z_n) z_n, \quad z \in D(E),$$

where  $z_n(x) = \sqrt{2/\pi} \sin nx$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , is the orthonormal set of eigenvectors of  $A$  and  $(z, z_n)$  is the  $L^2$  inner product. Moreover, for  $z \in X$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} E^{-1}z &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + n^2} (z, z_n) z_n, \\ -AE^{-1}z &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{-n^2}{1 + n^2} (z, z_n) z_n, \\ T(t)z &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{\frac{-n^2}{(1+n^2)}t} (z, z_n) z_n. \end{aligned}$$

We assume that

(A<sub>1</sub>): The operator  $B : U \rightarrow Y$ , with  $U \subset J$ , is a bounded linear operator.

(A<sub>2</sub>): The linear operator  $W : U \rightarrow X$  defined by

$$Wu = \int_0^a E^{-1}(a-s)^{\alpha-1} T_{\alpha}(a-s) Bu(s) ds$$

has an inverse bounded operator  $W^{-1}$  which takes values in  $L^2(J, U)/\ker W$ , where the kernel space of  $W$  is defined by  $\ker W = \{x \in L^2(J, U) : Wx = 0\}$ ,  $B$  is a bounded linear operator.

(A<sub>3</sub>): The nonlinear operator  $\mu_1 : J \times X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the following three conditions:

- (i) For each  $t \in J$ ,  $\mu_1(t, z)$  is continuous.
- (ii) For each  $z \in X$ ,  $\mu_1(t, z)$  is measurable.
- (iii) There is a constant  $\nu$  ( $0 < \nu < 1$ ) and a function  $h(\cdot) : [0, a] \rightarrow R^+$  such that for all  $(t, z) \in J \times X$ ,

$$\|\mu_1(t, z)\| \leq h(t)|z|^{\nu}.$$

(A<sub>4</sub>): The nonlinear operator  $\mu_2 : J \times J \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfies the following two conditions:

- (i) For each  $(t, s) \in J \times J$ ,  $\mu_2(t, s, z)$  is continuous.
- (ii) For each  $z \in X$ ,  $\mu_2(t, s, z)$  is measurable.

(A<sub>5</sub>): The nonlinear operator  $\mu_3 : J \times J \times X \times X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the following three conditions:

- (i) For each  $(t, s, z) \in J \times J \times X$ ,  $\mu_3(t, s, z)$  is continuous.
- (ii) For each  $z \in X$ ,  $\mu_3(t, s, z)$  is measurable.
- (iii) There is a constant  $\nu$  ( $0 < \nu < 1$ ) and a function  $g(\cdot) : [0, a] \rightarrow R^+$  such that for all  $(t, s, z, y) \in J \times J \times X \times X$ ,

$$\left\| \int_0^t \mu_3 \left( t, s, z, \int_0^s \mu_2(s, \tau, z) d\tau \right) ds \right\| \leq g(t)|z|^{\nu}.$$

Define an operator  $f : J \times X \rightarrow Y$  by

$$f(t, z)(x) = \mu_1(t, z_{xx}(x))$$

and let

$$H(t, s, z)(x) = \mu_2(t, s, z_{xx}(x)), \quad (t, s, z) \in J \times J \times X,$$

$$g\left(t, s, z, \int_0^s H(s, \tau, z) d\tau\right)(x) = \mu_3\left(t, s, z_{xx}, \int_0^s \mu_2(s, \tau, z_{xx}(x)) d\tau\right), \quad x \in [0, \pi].$$

Then the problem (4.1) can be formulated abstractly as:

$$\begin{aligned} & {}^c\mathcal{D}^\alpha(Ez(t)) + Az(t) \\ &= Bu(t) + f(t, z(t)) + \int_0^t g\left(t, s, z, \int_0^s H(s, \tau, z(\tau)) d\tau\right) ds, \quad t \in J, z(0) = z_0. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $-AE^{-1}$  generates a uniformly continuous semigroup  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  on  $Y$  which is compact, and (2.1) is satisfied. Also, the operator  $f$  satisfies condition  $(H_6)$  and the operator  $H$  and  $g$  satisfy  $(H_7)$  and  $(H_8)$ . Also all the conditions of Theorem 3.1 are satisfied. Hence, the equation (4.1) is controllable on  $J$ .

#### Competing interests

The author declare that he has no competing interests.

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